Pike Panel Votes To Print Secrets

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The House intelligence committee voted yesterday that an agreement with President Ford on secrecy cannot prevent disclosure in the panel's final report of top-secret details of U.S. intelligence operations.

The committee rejected, eight to four, a motion by Rep. Dale Milford (D-Tex.) that all secret information be deleted from the committee' final report to the House.

Members, including Chairman Otis G. Pike (D-N.Y.), contend that the agreement under which Mr. Ford last week moved to block public disclosure of details on two operations cannot prevent disclosure of secrets in the committee's final report.

A 340-page draft report includes details on spying by U.S. submarines and a number of U.S. covert operations, including support of Angolan forces and of Italian political parties.

At the White House, press secretary Ron Nessen said yesterday that newspaper accounts of the contents of the Pike report "have been scanned here and found to contain a number of inaccuracies and distortions." He would not elaborate.

Nessen said that the President believes "these continued leaks and disregard for necessary secrecy . . . do the gravest damage to our intelligence capability and our foreign relations."

Under the agreement reached earlier with Pike, Nessen said, "it is our understanding that the President should have had the chance to review the classified material in the report before it was leaked to the newspapers."